



U. S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Southeastern Area
State & Private Forestry

FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT

Report No. 82-3-28

Issued: 2/24/82

AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY OF FOREST INSECT
AND DISEASE ACTIVITY, OUACHITA NATIONAL
FOREST, ARKANSAS

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Ouachita National Forest
(Mena & Caddo Ranger Districts & Tiak Division)

STATE: Arkansas & Oklahoma

AREA WITHIN SURVEY AREA: 756,000 acres (Garland, McCurbin & Montgomery Counties,
Arkansas; McCurtain County, Oklahoma)

DATE: February 17, 1982

PERCENT COVERAGE: 100%

CREW: Charles Dull, Jim Smith & Charles Kerr

REPORT PREPARED BY: Charles Dull

SURVEY OBJECTIVES

To detect forest insect and disease activity within and adjacent to National Forest boundaries on the Ouachita National Forest. Special emphasis was placed on the detection of southern pine beetle activity, in the pine forest type located along the southern portion of the National Forest.

SURVEY RESULTS

Several large spots were observed during this aerial survey. Eight multiple tree spots containing an estimated 800 infested trees were detected. At one location along the Caney Creek in a wilderness area, an estimated 300 trees were red or fading with an additional 1,000 dead standing trees which appeared to have been attacked last summer. Other large spots were observed which indicate that a southern pine beetle outbreak is present on the Ouachita National Forest. Ground checks revealed the presence of all stages of southern pine beetle at three locations checked. At one location along the southern boundary of the National Forest, approximately 200 trees contained all stages of southern pine beetle. Two additional spots were ground checked, at which National Forest had been salvaging southern pine beetle killed timber. Population breakouts had occurred at both sites where trees contained active southern pine beetle populations. Scattered single tree spots were observed throughout the survey area. No southern pine beetle activity was observed on the Tiak Division. A map showing the locations of spots detected during this aerial survey is attached.

A southern pine beetle outbreak was detected on the Ouachita National Forest. The activity appears to be confined to several large spots at this time. National Forest personnel have already begun to remove some of these infestations through commercial sales. Another survey is recommended for May when southern pine beetles should be more active. Forest Pest Management will assist the Forest as needed for biological evaluations or other technical assistance.

For additional information, contact:

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